GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1283
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2007
FREEDOM FIGHTER`S PENSION
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of freedom fighters are on the increase in the country as reported in the "Times of India" dated July 2, 2007;

(b) if so, the total number of freedom fighters receiving Freedom Fighter`s Pension during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has investigated the reasons for the increase in their numbers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken to verify the genuineness of claimants for freedom fighter`s pension?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) to (e) : No, Sir. The figures given in the news item appeared in the Times of India dated July 2, 2007 relate to the cumulative number of Samman pensions sanctioned to the freedom fighters and their dependents who have been sanctioned Swatantrata Sainik Samman pension since introduction of the Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme in 1972. These figures do not relate to the actual number of freedom fighters who are alive and drawing Samman pension presently as wrongly mentioned in the news item.

The total number of freedom fighters who were in receipt of Samman pension during the last three years are not available as no such data is compiled